

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 AID-05 IGA-02 DHA-02 ORM-02 EB-08

SP-02 OES-06 AGRE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /056 W

-----091728Z 089022 /44

P R 091330Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9589

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY ASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

C O N F I D E N T I A L GABORONE 0581

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

FROM THE AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SWEL, SREF, UNSC, BC

SUBJECT: FARAH MISSION AND PROBABLE FORTHCOMING REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

REF: A. GABORONE 509; B. GABORONE 546; C. GABORONE 562:

D. GABORONE 582

1. SUMMARY: AS REPORTED REFTELS A AND B, FARAH BRIEFING OF DIPLOMATIC CORPS EMPHASIZED NEED FOR DONOR ASSISTANCE FOR REFUGEES, LIVESTOCK CONTROL FENCE, AND STARTAEGIC GRAIN RESERVES.

IN ADDITION, FARAH MISSION REPORT WILL CONTAIN MENTION OF BOT-ZAM ROAD AS PRIORITY PROJECT. ACTION REQUESTED. THAT STEPS BE TAKEN NOW TO PREPARE A PROMPT AND POSITIVE U.S.

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RESPONSE TO THE ANTICIPATED FARAH MISSION RECOMMENDATIONS IN ORDER (A) TO DEMONSTRATE THE SINCERITY OF THE COMMENTS MADE BY U.S. REPS DURING THE UNSC DEBATE ON BOTSWANA'S COMPLAINT AND (B) TO PROVIDE CONCRETE INDICATIONS OF OUR DESIRE TO ASSIST BOTSWANA TO MEET PRIORITY EMERGENCY NEEDS AND THEREBY BEGIN TO ERASE THE EFFECTS OF THE U.S. ABSTENTION FROM VOTING ON BOTSWANA'S RESOLUTION.

END SUMMARY.

2. BASED ON FARAH'S BRIEFING OF DIPLOMATIC COPRS, THE FARAH MISSION REPORT, EXPECTED TO BE SUBMITTED TO UNSYG O/A MARCH 20, WILL REQUEST ASSISTANCE REQUIREMENTS CONSIDERATION (AND RESPONSE) TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

A. ON REFUGEES (REF A):

1. CAN USG ASSIST IN CONSTRUCTION OF SECONDARY SCHOOL FACILITIES TO HELP PROVIDE 960 NEW PLACES? (FACILITIES WOULD NOT BE FOR SOLE USE OF REFUGEES INASMUCH AS REFUGEES WOULD BE INTEGRATED WITH BOTSWANA STUDENTS).

2. CAN USG HELP GOB IN ITS PLAN TO INCREASE UNIVERSITY CAPACITY HERE BY 50 PLACES TO ACCOMMODATE INFLUX OF SOWETO STUDENTS?

3. CAN USG HELP PROVIDE EDUCATION HERE OR IN US FOR SOME OF 18 QUALIFIED SOWETO STUDENTS WHO WISH TO ENTER UNIVERSITY TRAINING?

B. LIVESTOCK CONTROL FENCE (REF B):

1. COULD THE USG FIND FUNDS FROM FY 77 RESOURCES TO CONTRIBUTE TO THIS PROJECT WHICH WOULD ENTAIL A 290 KILOMETER DOUBLE-CORDON FENCE, WITH ADDITIONAL BUFFER FENCE, BOREHOLES AND ACCESS ROADS?

C. DEVELOPMENT OF STRATEGIC GRAIN RESERVES (REF B):

1. IS US ABLE TO ARRANGE A CONTRIBUTION (E.G. CONFIDENTIAL

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THROUGH FOOD FOR PEACE) TOWARD INCREASING BOTSWANA'S GRAIN RESERVES?

2. COULD US EARMARK "FOOD FOR PEACE" WHEAT IT PROVIDED FAO TO SENT TO BOTSWANA?

3. IN GENERAL, COULD US CONSIDER PROVIDING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AND/OR EXPERTISE FOR CONSTRUCTION OF GRAIN STORAGE FACILITIES?

3. BOT-ZAM ROAD: THE FARAH REPORT (NOT MENTIONED SPECIFICALLY IN THE FARAH BRIEFING GOBE MENTIONING THE PAVING OF THE BOT-ZAM ROAD AS A PRIORITY PROJECT. FINMIN PERSEC GAOLATHE AND ECONOMIC PLANNER STEVENS TOLD AMBASSADOR MARCH 4 THAT GOB HAD EMPHASIZED TO FARAH COMMISSION THE IMPORTANCE OF THE PAVING OF THE ROAD AS ONPGPGMME PRIORITIES. BECAUSE OF US INVOLVEMENT AND TO AVOID CON-
O
FRTIBNZNRMISSION REPORT WOULD NOT LIST PAVING PROJECT ALONG-

SIDE WOTHER PRIORITY PROJECTS; RATHER REPORT WOULD MENTION ONLY THAT THE PAVING O THE ROAD WAS A MATTER PRESENTLY UNDER NEGOTIATION WITH AN "EXTERNAL SOURCE". STEVENS ADDED THAT GOB PLANNERS WOULD PRODUCE BY MIDDLE OR END OF AMRCH THEIR FINAL COMMENTS ON TAMS REPORT, TRAFFIC LOAD; ENGINEERING, ETC. THEREAFTER; BALL WOULD BE IN OUR COURT TO SEND MISSION TO BOTSWANA (E.G. IN MAY) TO WRAP UP NECESSARY PROJECT DOCUMENTATION.

QUESTION: IS THE US PREPARED TO REQUEST NECESSARY FUNDS FROM CONGRESS TO ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR PAVING BOT-ZAM ROAD? (EDF REP DAVID ANDERSON TOLD ME MARCH 8 EDF FUNDS COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR THE ROAD).

4. I AM FULLY AWARE THAT US AID ASSISTANCE IS GEARED TOWARD LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS AND TRAINING OF LOCAL PERSONNLE. GIVEN PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS; WE
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ARE NOT BEST EQUIPPED TO RESPOND TO EMERGENCY NEEDS OR REQUESTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF INFRASTRUCTURE. HOWEVER, AT THIS JUNCTURE, I FEEL THAT POSITIVE USG RESPONSE TO FARAH MISSION REPORT IS OF CRITICAL IMPORTANCE IN OUR RELATIONS? THE PROJECT OF OVERRIDING IMPORTANCE OF WHICH GOB IS LOOKING TO US FOR HELP IS BOT-ZAM ROAD. SECOND, I WOULD HOPE USG WILL BE PREPARED TO PROVIDE SOME SUP-PORT, BEYOND THE ROAD, TOWARD THE OTHER PRIORITY PROJECTS; ESPECIALLY ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES IN FIELD OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT THE DEPARTMENT BEGIN FORMULATING POSITIVE RESPONSES TO ABOVE QUESTION TO ENABLE US TO ACT IN APPROPRIATE, EFFECTIVE AND PROMPT MANNER TO RECOM-MENDATIONS OF FARAH REPORT.

ALBERTI

NOTE BY OC/T: TEXT AS RECEIVED.

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